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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/629,707	07/31/2000	Zhigang Ma	Ma-12-7-5	5486

7590 10/04/2004
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EXAMINER

TRAN, THIEN D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2665

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/629,707	Applicant(s) MA ET AL.	
	Examiner Thien D Tran	Art Unit 2665	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being participated by Weng et al (U.S Patent No.5,659,698).

Regarding claim 1, Weng discloses that in a multiprocessor digital signal processing system, the combination comprising:

a plurality of processors 58, 62, 64;

a single coder/decoder 56 having a digital/analog conversion channel time division multiplexed among, and an analog/digital conversion channel concurrently coupled to, said plurality of processors. See figure 3, col.11 lines 10-13, and col.31 lines 49-60.

Regarding claims 2, 7, Weng discloses in a multiprocessor digital signal processing system comprising:

means for individually selecting input digital signals and analog signals for digital/analog conversion and the analog/digital conversion, respectively, col.5 lines 40-50; and

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means for assigning which of the multiple processors is coupled to the digital/analog conversion channel. See figure 3, and col.11 lines 10-13.

Regarding claims 3, 5, 6, Weng discloses a digital signal processing system comprising:

- a single coder/decoder 56 (figure 3) having digital and analog signal inputs, and digital/analog and analog/digital conversion channels;

- a first source of analog input signals 28 coupled to said analog signal input of said coder/decoder;

- a second source of digital input signals 112;

- a first plurality of signal processors coupled between said source of digital input signals and said digital signal input of said coder/decoder (figure 5); and

- means for time division multiplexing said digital/analog conversion channel of said coder/decoder (figure 17, col.26 lines 5-25);

whereby digital-to-analog converted signals are time division multiplexed at said analog output of said coder/decoder, and analog-to-digital converted signals are concurrently accessible at such digital output of said coder/decoder. See figure 3

Regarding claim 4, Weng discloses the digital signal processing system including a second plurality of signal processors coupled to said digital output of said coder/decoder for operating on said analog-to-digital converted signals. See col.8 lines 45-65.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 06/18/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Weng fails to teach a plurality of processors connected to a single coder/decoder having time division multiplex among. However, Examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument because Weng discloses a plurality of processors 58, 62, 64, figure 2, connected to a single CODEC 56 (coder/decoder), col.5 lines 45-50, wherein the time division multiplex frame being used in the process (having time division multiplex among), col.11 lines 10-13.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of


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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Thien Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3156. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (571) 272-3155. Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Thien Tran



STEVEN NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER